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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

January 8, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222 Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace; Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

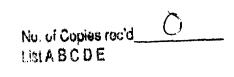
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Being a consumer of telecommunications products & services I find it difficult to make an informed decision on which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Without public disclosure services like this would disappear.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

Consumers of long distance services, both residential and small business, rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services they need. As even the FCC recognized in its October 1996 order, a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousand of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.

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I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Bret Wadleigh

217 14th Ave.

San Francisco, CA 94118

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L. MARIE VIDUYA 1000 MAG NOLIA DR. ALAMEDA, CA 94502

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JASON POACOCK

243 ORANGE 57 47

OAKLAND, CA
94610

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STEPHANIE MENTER

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Thank You, Erich Mele Embarcadero 5 San Francisco CA 94107



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Federal Communications Commission
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Thank You,

David School

David Schoole 2711 Le Conte Ave. Berkeley, CA 94709

January 8, 1998

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925 Hollowst Blod
Aldbrie # 94030

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2342 Franklin Street

San Francisco, CA 94123

January 14, 1998





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Kevin O'Connell 25800 Industrial Blvd. D330 Hayward, CA 94545 January 8, 1998

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Consumer long distance services, I rely on publicly available pricing information in order to make informed decisions about the telecommunications services I need. As even the FCC recognized in its October 1996 order, a public disclosure requirement promotes the public interest by making it easier for consumers to compare service offerings. Thousand of long distance calling plans and services are now available to the public. If consumers are to be able to make any meaningful distinctions between these plans, they must have access to detailed and accurate information regarding the plans. The only way to ensure that consumers have access to the plans that they are interested in, as opposed to the particular plan that a carrier happens to be promoting at a particular time, is through an FCC-mandated public disclosure requirement. The FCC should not deny consumers access to this important information.

Consumers traditionally have served as the FCC's watchdogs over certain practices of the long distance industry. For example, the Communications Act prohibits carriers from charging consumers in rural and other high- cost areas higher rates than those charged to consumers in urban and other lower-cost areas. Absent the public availability of pricing information, however, consumers will be hard pressed to detect such impermissible price discrimination in the first instance. Moreover, even if consumers are able to determine that a violation has occurred, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to adequately support their complaints to the FCC.

The Commission suggests that billing and other advertising and promotional materials will be available to serve the informational needs of consumers. The is far from true. First, billing information, by definition, is

I fully support the Petition and urge the Commission to promptly reinstate the public information disclosure requirement for widely available services. Only in this way can the Commission ensure that consumers have access to information crucial to both consumer choice and the consumer complaint process.

Thank You.

Tom O'Connell 2346 Franklin Street

San Francisco, CA 94123

JAN 2 2:1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

January 14, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222 Washington, DC 20554

Re: Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Marketplace; Implementation of Section 254 (g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended: CC Docket No. 96-61

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 4, 1997, the Telecommunications Management Information Systems Coalition and The Utility Reform Network filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to eliminate the requirement for long distance carriers to provide pricing and service information regarding widely available services to the public. I support this Petition.

Being a consumer of telecommunications products & services I find it difficult to make an informed decision on which carrier I should choose. I found the Salestar Web Pricer helpful and informative in choosing my long distance carrier. Without public disclosure services like this would disappear.

In October 1996, the FCC adopted rules that prohibit long distance carriers from filing their tariffs for domestic long distance service with the FCC. At the same time, the Commission noted that consumers continue to need information about the rates, terms and conditions of long distance service. As a result, the FCC required carriers to make such information available to the public. In August 1997, the Commission inexplicably changed its position and eliminated the public disclosure requirement for mass market services even though no party requested such a change. Despite the FCC's elimination of the information disclosure requirement, a strong need for publicly available information regarding long distance services remains.

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Thank You,

JOSEPHINE SHUM

Josephine Sham

3124 PACHECO ST

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116

JAN 22:1998

January 8, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W.- Room 222 Washington, DC 20554

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